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A recent paper by Mr. Lyon,[1] whose work on the embryogeny of Nelumbium has been a stimulus to work of this nature, has apparently not come to the notice of Miss Sargent. This paper considers primarily not the origin of the monocotyledons and dicotyledons but the origin of the cotyledon itself. His conclusions are of such interest, and part of them so directly connected with the questions with which Miss Sargent's paper is concerned that it seems well to state them briefly. Of the three elements, cotyledon, stem and root of the typical embryo of the pteridophytes and angiosperms, the cotyledons do not represent modified leaves, but are primarily haustorial organs, originating phylogenetically as the nursing foot in the Bryophytes and persisting in the higher plants. Thus the monocotyledonous condition occurring in the bryophytes, pteredophytes, and Monocotyledons is to be regarded as the primitive one while the two or sometimes more cotyledons of the dicotyledons are the homologues of the single cotyledon of the monocotyledons.

J. A. HARRIS.

French Forestry.[2] — Despite the different conditions under which French and American foresters have to work, Professor Mouillefert's *Traité de Sylviculture*, the first part of which has just appeared, is well calculated to be of much service even in this country. The remaining three volumes of the series are in press and are promised for the current year.

The bulk of the present volume is devoted to detailed accounts of the principal species both native and foreign with which French forestry is concerned. Each is described and illustrated by remarkably good figures showing commonly the winter habit, twigs with buds, the leaves, inflorescence, flowers, fruit, seeds, germination and wood. Reference is made to the geographical distribution, the tree's preference as regards soil and climate, and the best methods of propagating and tending. Considerable attention is given to the wood, especially as regards distinctive structural features and economic uses. The uses of other parts is also given, as well as an account of the general economic importance of the tree, exhibited so far as possible by statistics. Finally, its more important insect enemies and vegetable parasites are mentioned and the nature and extent of the injuries they inflict briefly indicated.

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[1] Lyon, H. E. The Phylogeny of the Cotyledon, *Poslelsia*, Vol. i, pp. 57–86, 1902.

[2] Mouillefert, P. *Principales Essence Forestières préceedées de notions de statisque forestières.* Paris, Felix Alcan. 1903. 12mo, xii + 545 pp., 630 figs.

Near the end of the book is a synoptical table or key to the principal woods distinguished by features visible to the naked eye or under a magnification of about 20 diameters.

A preliminary part of about 40 pages states clearly and concisely important conclusions drawn from French forestry statistics, modern views of the influence of forests on water supply and climate, and the influences of climate, soil, forest covering, commercial and economic considerations, etc., on forest production. The volume closes with a full index, thus making this part of the treatise complete in itself. F. L. S.

Kraemer's Course in Botany and Pharmacognosy[1] presents in convenient form a good general account of the minute and the gross anatomy of vegetable drugs and their microchemistry. Following the general morphological part are chapters devoted to the description and discrimination of drugs in the crude state and in powder. In this part excellent keys are included by means of which the student is helped to recognize any official drug. A third part deals briefly with the most useful reagents required in pharmacognosy, and with simple methods of making microscopic preparations. There are 17 plates containing 128 figures, 6 of which are colored. All are clearly drawn and well printed on clayed paper. Besides a full general index there is a special index to powdered drugs.

The book is remarkably well calculated to give students of pharmacy all the botany they need in preparing for their profession. The style is unusually clear and direct, and an orderly comprehension of the more difficult topics is much facilitated by the use of tables. In preparing this work Professor Kraemer has done a good service to many students and teachers.

F. L. S.

Notes. — *The Journal of the New York Botanical Garden*, for February, contains information concerning the research scholarship recently established at that Institution; an interesting account by Mrs. Vail of Jonas Bronck and his Bouwery in New Amsterdam, and some chemical studies of *Sarracenia purpurea*, by Gies.

"Why Popcorn pops" is the subject of an article by Wilbert in the *American Journal of Pharmacy* for February.

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[1] Kraemer, Henry. *A Course in Botany and Pharmacognosy*. Philadelphia, 1902. 12mo. 384 pp., 128 figs.